

November 15, 2007

Ms. Victoria J. Rutson  
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Ms. Rutson:

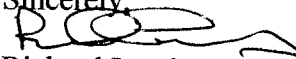
I am currently President at **the Barrington Countryside Park District** in the Barrington, Illinois area. In my capacity as **President** over the past 6 yrs, I oversee the organization. **The BCPD** serves a vital purpose in the community by **providing recreation / equestrian events to the public**. We depend heavily on **lack of noise, low traffic, safety at grade crossings, etc.**

It has come to my attention that Canadian National Railway Company seeks to acquire the Elgin, Joliet, & Eastern Railway Co, which operates a rail line that runs through the Barrington area. I write to urge the Surface Transportation Board to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for this transaction. The transaction will have a significant impact on **noise, traffic, safety at grade crossings, etc.**, and only the rigorous review required by the EIS process will develop alternatives and mitigation procedures sufficient to limit that impact. This review should include impacts of the transaction further into the future than the three years Canadian National currently estimates.

**We fear for the endangerment of horses and riders at track crossing and increased traffic.**

If the Board does not require an EIS, we will not have the information necessary to prevent a severe degradation in the local environment. Moreover, the EIS should look further into the future than the three years for which CN has estimated traffic increases; such a shortsighted view does not take into account major changes expected in our region for future generations. The SEA should immediately begin developing a scope of study for a draft EIS that emphasizes the impact on **noise, traffic, safety at grade crossings, etc.** I look forward to further correspondence with SEA and the Board on the EIS process.

Sincerely,



Richard Lamkey